

## Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 IO-14 ISO-00 FEA-01 AGRE-00 CEA-01  
CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05  
L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 AID-05 SS-15  
STR-04 ITC-01 TRSE-00 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01  
/107 W

-----027830 011212Z /46

R 010910Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1021

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS CANBERRA 5384

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, AS

SUBJECT: AUSTRALIAN SALES TAX ON IMPORTS

REF: STATE 175982

1. THIS IS PRELIMINARY RESPONSE TO STATE 175982.
2. QUICK TELEPHONE CHECK WITH AUSTRALIAN TAXATION OFFICE CONFIRMS, AS EXPECTED, INFORMATION FURNISHED BY AUSTRALIAN TRADE OFFICE IN NEW YORK. OUR INFORMANT ADVISES US THAT THESE EXEMPTIONS FOR A VARIETY OF DOMESTIC PRODUCTS WERE WRITTEN INTO LAW AND REGULATION MANY YEARS AGO. HE HAS VOLUNTEERED TO SEND US THE RELEVANT TEXT, WHICH WE ARE NOW AWAITING.
3. THE TAX OFFICE OF ITS OWN MOTION ALLUDED TO THE QUESTION OF GATT CONSISTENCY, AND VOLUNTEERED THAT THESE EXEMPTIONS CONSIDERABLY PREDATE GATT IN TIME ARE ACCORDINGLY NOT GATT VIOLATIONS.
4. EMBASSY WILL AWAIT RECEIPT OF PROMISED TEXTS, AND AFTER

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EXAMING THEM REQUEST COMMENT ON THE QUESTION OF GATT CONSISTENCY FROM THE OFFICERS IN THE DEPARTMENT OF OVERSEAS TRADE RESPONSIBLE FOR GATT MATTERS.  
ALSTON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SALES, IMPORTS, TAX LAW  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 01-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977CANBER05384  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770274-0933  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** CANBERRA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
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**Line Count:** 59  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** 9a6cb350-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 STATE 175982  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 28-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1437949  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** AUSTRALIAN SALES TAX ON IMPORTS  
**TAGS:** ETRD, AS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009